

Eighty-three presents were announced as having been received since the last meeting, including, amongst others :—

Th. Brédikhine, *Mouvement des substances émises par les Comètes 1893 II. et IV.*; H. S. Davis, *Parallax of η Cassiopeiae*, deduced from the Rutherford photographic measures, presented by the authors; Potsdam Observatory Publications, vol. vii. pt. 2 (Scheiner, *Spectra der helleren Sterne*), and vol. x. (Spoerer, *Beobachtungen von Sonnenflecken*), presented by the Observatory; The Calendarium of Mohammed Al Achsasi Al Mouakket (Arabic MS.), presented by Mr. Knobel.

Reproduction of Astronomical Photographs.

The Council have recently decided to undertake the reproduction (by paper prints and lantern slides) of a selection of the Astronomical photographs now in the possession of the Society, or which may be submitted to the Society for the purpose.

To include any large number of such reproductions in the ordinary publications of the Society, which are distributed gratis, would not be possible unless the subscription were raised. Again, the selection of a small number from the wealth of excellent photographs now being produced would be not only invidious but extremely difficult.

In view of these considerations it seemed the easiest course to try how far the sale of such prints at approximately cost price would satisfy the requirements of astronomers. The Society would thus act as a convenient centre for receiving photographs intended for reproduction and distributing the prints, but would not be interested financially in the undertaking.

In accordance with the decision of Council several photographs have been already reproduced. The list given below shows those of which copies are now on sale; others will follow. The prints are in two styles—platinotype and aristotype—mounted on sunk, cut-out mounts measuring 12 by 10 inches, and the price has been fixed at 1s. 6d. each.

In ordering prints it will only be necessary to quote the R.A.S. reference number. Orders to be addressed to W. H. Wesley. Full details as regards subject, instrumental data, exposure, &c., will be found on the back of each print. A set of specimen prints may be seen in the Library.

Suggestions will be gratefully received, either as to subjects of which reproduction is desirable or as regards any of the details.

The following prints are now on sale :—

R.A.S. Reference No.	Subject.	Photograph by
1	Total Solar Eclipse, 1889 January 1	W. H. Pickering
2	Total Solar Eclipse, 1893 April 16	J. M. Schaeberle
3	Total Solar Eclipse, 1886 August 29	A. Schuster
4	Nebulae in the Pleiades	Isaac Roberts
5	Nebula M. 74 Piscium	Isaac Roberts
6	Great Nebula in Orion	Isaac Roberts
7	Milky Way near Messier II.	E. E. Barnard
8	Milky Way near Cluster in Perseus	E. E. Barnard
9	Comet c 1893 IV. (Brooks)	E. E. Barnard
10	Comet a 1892 I. (Swift)	E. E. Barnard
11	Nebula about η Argus	David Gill
12	Portion of Moon (Hyginus-Albategnius)	MM. Loewy and Puiseux

Arrangements are also being made for the supply of lantern slides prepared from the photographs in the possession of the Society. Further particulars respecting these will be issued as soon as the arrangements are complete.

A Determination of the Mean N.P.D. 1790 January 0, of γ Draconis from Observations made at Oxford by Dr. Hornsby.
By E. J. Stone, M.A., F.R.S., Radcliffe Observer.

The Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford, was built about the year 1771, by the Radcliffe Trustees at the request of the University authorities, and furnished with the best instruments available at the time.

The equipment for the meridian observations consisted of two brass quadrants of 8 feet radius, a zenith sector of 12 feet focal length, and a transit instrument with an object glass of 4 inches. The mechanical parts of these instruments, and the divisions, were the work of the celebrated mechanician John Bird, and the optical work was by Dollond. There was no observatory in the world better equipped with meridian instruments than the Oxford Observatory at its foundation.

The quadrant and transit observations made by Dr. Hornsby in the year 1774, and in many subsequent years, were copied by him into books ; but the papers generally are in great confusion. Dr. Hornsby reduced some selected observations for special purposes ; but the observations have never been regularly reduced, nor, so far as I can find, have they been published in any form which would render them available for the use of astronomers.

The completion of the "Radcliffe Catalogue of 6,424 Stars for 1890" has afforded me the necessary leisure to take into con-

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